

U. S. Department of Justice

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By: MKS Date: 03-12-2018

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FEDERAL BURE

of

INVESTIGATION



Serials 1-

100-

HQ-7826-41

Sec. 1

See also Nos. _____

7-1224

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Portland, Oregon
May 8, 1943

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Carson.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Kramer.....
Mr. McGuire.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Gandy.....
Files.....

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

FOIA (b) (7) - (D)

Re: **RUSSIAN ACTIVITY,**
PORTLAND, OREGON.

Dear Sir:

[redacted] and a confidential contact of this office, has advised today of a condition which he considered very important and possibly highly significant in connection with the Internal Security of the Pacific Northwest.

[redacted] stated that within the past five days, 19 Russian vessels have entered the port area simultaneously for loading cargoes. Despite repeated instructions to the Soviet Purchasing Commission representatives in this area as to the limited facilities for handling the loading of cargo, and advice to the commission representatives that it would be impossible to load this number of vessels at any one time, the Russians have without warning continued to send vessels into this area. [redacted] stated that the same condition exists at the present time in the Seattle area, and that he has information through his company connections in San Francisco that an attempt has been made to load that port area also. In San Francisco, however, since this port is used as an exit port for the U. S. Army, and due to our own existing transport needs, the Russians have been kept from using the facilities.

[redacted] stated that due to the diversified types of cargo required for the 19 vessels mentioned above (which involves some 94,000 tons of cargo), the demands of the Russians amount practically to tying up of all loading terminals, loading crews, and other port and rail facilities such as would effectively plug the port if an attempt was made to give the immediate service which the Russians are demanding. He stated that Colonel H. G. WILLIAMS, head of Defense Transportation for the U. S. Army in Portland, is fully apprised of this situation and does not intend that these Russian boats will be allowed to congest the port area. Colonel WILLIAMS has stated that the Russian boats will be handled only in accordance with the program which has been previously laid out, and will be handled in such a way as to prevent jeopardizing our own shipping.

[redacted] expressed the opinion that pressure would be brought to bear in Washington, D. C. through Russian diplomatic channels, and that considerable comment and probably investigation will be provoked.



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EX - 51

100-7826-41-1
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PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

-2-

5-8-43

Re: RUSSIAN ACTIVITY,
PORTLAND, OREGON.

This information is being furnished to the Bureau with the thought that requests may be received from Government sources in Washington for an investigation of this situation, should the expected pressure be brought to bear upon the State Department or other Government representatives by the Soviet diplomats in Washington.

There is also the possibility, which is of course not substantiated by any factual information at the present time, that the efforts of the Russian government may have some underlying purpose, which is not evident on the surface. It is entirely possible that the efforts to tie up the port facilities at West Coast ports may have some connection with a contemplated change in Soviet-Japanese relationships.

Every effort will be made through and other sources to maintain contact with this situation, and any developments of significance will be promptly reported to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)



R. P. KRAMER
Special Agent in Charge

RPK:KB
AIR MAIL
SPECIAL DELIVERY

100-7826 sub #1 - 2

NOT USED
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65-49085 - 4

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: December 21, 1944

FROM : C.W. STEIN, SAC, Portland, Oregon

SUBJECT: RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES

As the Bureau has been previously informed an increasing interest has been shown by G-2 and ONI at Portland, Oregon, with respect to Russian activities in the Portland area. It is recalled that Captain D.K. MacDOUGALL of the Portland Office of G-2 recently inadvertently indicated that two undercover agents had been brought into the Portland area to work on Russian matters.

On December 18, 1944, Lieut. BURT WALKER, local representative of ONI, and Captain D.K. MacDOUGALL called at the Portland Office and were interviewed by Assistant Special Agent in Charge, JULIUS A. BERNARD. While it appeared that their call at the office was intended to seem casual their purpose primarily was to discuss the matter of Russian activities in this district.

Lieut. WALKER advised that he had a source of information through whom certain information, consisting of payroll records of members of the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission, could be obtained. He desired to be informed if such data would be of interest to this office. He was informed that the Bureau was always interested in any information from an intelligence standpoint, and that the Portland Office was glad to receive any information he might have which was considered to be of interest. While Lieut. WALKER did not reveal the potential source of his information it is believed that ONI has an informant presently employed in the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission. Lieut. WALKER remarked that in the event the Portland Office was interested in having someone employed in the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission such arrangements could be easily made by him. He stated that little was required on the application of a prospective employee, and that insofar as could be determined no background check was made concerning the applicant.

Both Captain MacDOUGALL and Lieut. WALKER were informed that while this office is interested in the activities of any individual, including those of Russian citizenship or Russian ancestry, this office had no authority to conduct investigation concerning any representative of the Soviet Government in view of their diplomatic immunity.

Captain MacDOUGALL at this time advised that he had occasion recently to talk to Lieut. JOHN HALL, Intelligence Officer stationed at Pasco, Washington, whose duties pertain to the Government project at Hanford, Washington, and that Lieut. HALL had expressed concern over the activities

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EX-18

Being handled with reference to the Hanford project

of the Russian element in this area in view of the close proximity of the Hanford project to Portland which is the center of Russian shipping activity on the West Coast. Captain MacDOUGALL related that HALL made the statement that he was going to endeavor to secure authorization through channels to conduct investigation in this area concerning the Russians notwithstanding the immunity presently being enjoyed by them in view of their Soviet Government connections.

Lieut. WALKER commented that he had just been informed that ~~NADIA~~ OSIPOVICH, an employee of the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission, had been fired on the date of the interview. The source of this information was not revealed. It is noted that this individual is identical with Mrs. NADIA M. OSIPOVICH, nee. NADIA VASSILIEV, was., Internal Security - R, Portland file No. 100-5053, who has been employed as an interpreter at the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission and whose husband is employed by the Bonneville Power Administration. It is noted that Mrs. OSIPOVICH has reportedly associated with prominent members of the Communist Political Association. It is noted that this information has not as yet been confirmed through local sources available to the Portland Office.

In response to the question of Assistant Special Agent in Charge, JULIUS A. BERNARD, both Captain MacDOUGALL and Lieut. WALKER denied that any active investigation was being conducted with respect to Russian activities. However, it is apparent that they are very much interested in such activities and obviously have been developing informants in this field. On several occasions it has been noted that during the course of surveillances being handled by agents of this office they have observed both Captain MacDOUGALL and Lieut. WALKER in the vicinity of the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission. Such a situation is somewhat embarrassing to the agents on such surveillances, and in several instances it has been necessary for the surveilling agents to alter their routes in order to avoid meeting one or the other of the above officers. It is pointed out that due to the limited size of the city of Portland continued surveillances on Russian subjects becomes increasingly difficult in view of the interest of ONI and G-2 in such matters. The activities of the Russians coming into this city have for the most part centered around the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission.

This office will continue in its efforts in the investigation of such cases, however, it was desired that the developments as have been outlined above be called to the Bureau's attention, inasmuch as the continued interest of ONI and G-2 locally in such matters may seriously hamper the efforts of this office.

JAB:LP

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : J. E. Thornton, SAC, Portland

SUBJECT: RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES

DATE: January 30, 1945.

Mr. Tamm
Mr. Egan
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Handon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm

Reference is made to Portland letter dated December 6, 1944, marked P&C and Portland letter dated December 21, 1944, marked confidential, the first one captioned "Government Purchasing Commission of the Soviet Union in the U. S. of America, Internal Security - R," and the second one captioned "Russian Activities." Reference is also made to Portland teletype dated January 30, 1945.

Major THOMAS L. CHAMBERS, Foreign Intelligence, Fort Douglas, Utah, personally called at the Portland Office on January 30, 1945, and stated that he had come to clear up a misunderstanding. He presented his credentials and exhibited a letter dated January 10, 1945, which had been sent from G-2 at Washington, D. C. to him at Fort Douglas, Utah. This letter indicated that the Bureau had furnished Military Intelligence in Washington, D. C. with information to the effect that the Portland Office had advised that two male undercover agents of Military Intelligence are exclusively assigned to the investigation of members of the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission and that these undercover operatives have a knowledge of the Russian language. The letter further indicated that surveillances which had been conducted by Agents of the Portland Office had been embarrassed because of the presence of Captain McDUGALL, the local head of G-2. Major CHAMBERS stated that he did have two male operatives working in Portland who have a knowledge of the Russian language and that the object of their work here is to obtain information concerning the Japanese; that they work on the waterfront and contact Russian seamen on the theory that these seamen may possess information concerning the Japanese. He stated emphatically that these men had no instructions to investigate the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission or members of this commission and that they were not doing so. He did state that in connection with their contacts with the Russians that they had been guests in some of their homes and knew others casually. Major CHAMBERS advised that he had instructed Captain McDUGALL that G-2 could not investigate Russian activities or the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission and to do so would be a violation of the jurisdiction of agreement between the FBI and G-2.

He pointedly asked for the source of information which had advised the Bureau that two male operatives were working in Portland. Major CHAMBERS was respectively advised that the writer could not disclose the source of this information since it had been obtained confidentially. He was advised that surveillances had been altered by Agents of the Portland office on occasions when they encountered persons who were known to them or who knew them to be Agents and that this occurred on occasion when Captain McDUGALL had been encountered. He was further advised that this information was furnished the Bureau by the Portland office in order to explain certain surveillances which had been handled by the office.

53 FEB 13 1945

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Director, FBI

SAC, Portland
January 30, 1945

It was quite apparent that Major CHAMBERS was making a checkup on Captain McDOUGALL and members of his office and that possibly Captain McDOUGALL would be removed. In view of the fact that Captain McDOUGALL has been and is cooperative with this office, is open and frank in his discussions, the writer felt that he should be protected for two reasons: First, if he were disclosed as a source of information he would undoubtedly be removed or transferred from this district and his successor would be cognizant of the reason for his removal; second, if he remained in charge of the office any future assistance from him could not be expected since he would know that his confidence had been violated.

In view of the fact that the writer has elicited from Major CHAMBERS that these two undercover operatives are employed at the Willamette Iron and Steel Works through a contact, Mr. ED WESCOTT, some information had to be supplied Mr. WESCOTT. Major CHAMBERS also indicated that they had to have Coast Guard passes and therefore their presence is known necessarily to Lt. VAN HUBBARD of the Coast Guard, and since they had to obtain a Certificate of Availability for these men, application was made to the USES. It was realized that none of these three listed above would know the full status of the two men, yet each of them would know something of their identity and it is almost certain in the writer's mind that WESCOTT was cautioned not to disclose any information concerning either of them to anyone. Therefore, it is not possible for Major CHAMBERS to form a definite conclusive opinion as to the source from which the Portland office obtained this information. Major CHAMBERS advised the writer of the difficulty of securing Russian speaking agents and inquired as to the writer's opinion about leaving the two men here to continue their work. The writer has advised him that this is a matter for his discretion and no opinion can be expressed as to their efficiency.

As requested in the referenced teletype, the Portland office is very desirous of knowing whether or not the source of information, namely, Captain McDOUGALL, has been disclosed to G-2 in order that my action here can be governed accordingly.

JET:dmm

DIRECTOR, FBI

January 19, 1945

SAC, PORTLAND

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SPECIAL INDICES ON RUSSIAN MATTERS

This is in reply to your letter of January 13, 1945, requesting further information for Bureau approval of a special indices in the Portland office in connection with Russian matters.

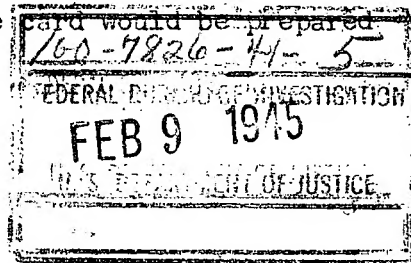
In connection with Russian investigations in Portland office, this is to advise that the port of Portland is the chief shipping port for Soviet Lend-Lease for the entire United States. There are approximately thirty vessels per month leaving this port and in addition, there is a constant flow of embassy and consular officials, diplomatic couriers, Purchasing Commission employees, and crew members that pass through this port to various points in the United States, Canada and London, England, as well as Mexico and South American countries.

In the Portland Office of the Soviet Purchasing Commission there are approximately 80 Russian and 26 American employees. It should be noted that a goodly number of Russian ships crew personnel are housed at Kaiser Company Swan Island Barracks while awaiting ship repairs on various vessels. Also, beginning approximately January 1, 1945, Russian vessels clearing the port of Portland have begun to transport thousands of Russian prisoners-of-war to the USSR. These prisoners-of-war have been housed at various prisoner-of-war camps in the United States and are Russian nationals, seized by the allied armies in North Africa and on the Western Front in Europe. It has been reliably reported that some of these prisoners-of-war were actually Russians captured by the Germans while others were fighting in German uniform or in German work battalions and were therefore somewhat reluctant to return. In connection with this investigation, the entire information is being reported in the highly confidential case entitled "Government Purchasing Commission of the Soviet Union in the USA, Internal Security-R." In addition to this investigation, there are presently pending investigations in confidential cases entitled "Sodac", "Comrap", and "Cinrad". In the next six months, according to information furnished by the Bureau, there may be a most critical period in connection with the investigation of the "Cinrad" case. In addition there are presently pending 19 authorized individual Russian cases in this Office as well as the case entitled "Russian Propaganda Arriving on the Pacific Coast, Internal Security-R."

Investigative steps had been taken in connection with the above cases, including some well placed confidential informants and a considerable project in connection with a highly confidential technical coverage. Due to the phonetic character of many of the Russian names, it is considered necessary to have a separate indices to properly coordinate, evaluate and correlate materials received through these investigative channels. In all instances where an index card is placed in the separate indices, a separate card would be prepared for the general indices.

51 FEB 20 1945

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In view of the importance that has been attached by the Bureau to these Russian investigations, it is respectfully requested that advice be given at an early date as to the Bureau's approval of such a separate indices. It is believed that the separate indices will greatly facilitate the nature of this work.

ELB:DEJ
66-166

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, F.B.I.

DATE: February 10, 1945

FROM : SAC, PORTLAND, OREGON

SUBJECT: SPECIAL INDICES ON RUSSIAN MATTERS

Reference is made to your letter dated January 30, 1945 which is in reply to our letter of January 19, 1945 concerning the above matter.

It is noted that the Bureau letter points out that it is assumed that the special indices will be used in preparation of charts of subversive activities prepared in the Portland Office. It is further noted that the Bureau has granted approval for the maintenance of the special indices for the Portland Office in connection with the Russian matters. It should be pointed out, however, that this special indices on Russian matters is not specifically designed by the Portland Office for use in preparation of charts on subversive activities as indicated by the Bureau's letter. The maintenance of charts and subversive activities is a corollary project to the Portland Office, and no doubt the indices on Russian matters will lend assistance on that project.

Unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau in the near future, this Office will set up the special indices as aforementioned on Russian matters to assist in the investigative program of this Office as previously outlined.

ELB:AR
66-166

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EX - 61

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adjust therefore
the policy

F.B.I. TELETYPE

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Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Egan _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Pennington _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

FBI PORTLAND 1-30-45 4-32 PM CK
 DIRECTOR ATTENTION D. M. LADD URGENT
 URGE

RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES. MAJOR THOMAS L. CHAMBERS, FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE, FORT DOUGLAS, UTAH, PERSONALLY CALLED AT PORTLAND OFFICE TODAY AND EXHIBITED LETTER FROM G-TWO, WASHINGTON, DC, DATED JANUARY TENTH, FORTYFIVE, INDICATING THAT G-TWO, WASHINGTON, HAD BEEN ADVISED BY THE BUREAU THAT THE PORTLAND FBI OFFICE HAD FURNISHED INFORMATION TO THE EFFECT THAT TWO MILITARY UNDERCOVER AGENTS OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE ARE EXCLUSIVELY ASSIGNED TO INVESTIGATION OF MEMBERS OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COMMISSION. ALSO, THAT SURVEILLANCES BY PORTLAND FBI AGENTS HAVE BEEN EMBARRASSED BY THE PRESENCE OF CAPTAIN D. K. MAC DOUGALL OF LOCAL G-TWO OFFICE, IN VICINITY OF SOVIET GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS. MAJOR CHAMBERS STATED THAT HE HAS TWO MALE LINGUISTS DOING UNDERCOVER WORK IN PORTLAND IN EFFORT TO OBTAIN JAPANESE INFORMATION AND THAT IN SO DOING THEY CONTACT UPON OCCASION RUSSIAN CONTACTS AND EMPLOYEES OF SOVIET GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COMMISSION BUT THAT THEY ARE NOT INTERESTED IN RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES. HE DEFINITELY REQUESTED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE BUREAU'S SOURCE OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE TWO UNDERCOVER OPERATIVES. MAJOR CHAMBERS WAS INFORMED THAT THE PORTLAND OFFICE WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO DISCLOSE THE SOURCE OF THIS INFORMATION, WHICH WAS DONE FOR TWO REASONS, FIRST CAPTAIN MAC DOUGALL IS AND HAS BEEN OPEN AND FRANK WITH THIS OFFICE AND VERY COOPERATIVE, AND TO HAVE DISCLOSED HIM AS THE SOURCE WOULD HAVE RUINED ANY FUTURE ASSISTANCE FROM HIM OR HIS SUCCESSOR AND UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE CAUSED HIS REMOVAL, PARTICULARLY SO SINCE HE HAS NOT INDICATED TO MAJOR CHAMBERS THAT HE HAS SUPPLIED INFORMATION. IF THE BUREAU HAS NOT DISCLOSED THE SOURCE OF THIS INFORMATION AS FURNISHED BY THE PORTLAND OFFICE, IT IS URGENTLY REQUESTED THAT IT NOT DO SO AND ADVICE IS REQUESTED IMMEDIATELY IN ORDER THAT MY ACTIONS CAN BE GOVERNED ACCORDINGLY. THE PORTLAND OFFICE KNOWS DEFINITELY THAT THE PRESENCE OF THESE

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.

52 MAR 28 1945

F.B.I. TELETYPE

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PAGE TWO

TWO OPERATORS IS KNOWN TO ED WESCOTT, OF THE WILLAMETTE IRON AND STEEL CORPORATION, WHERE THEY ARE PRESENTLY EMPLOYED. THEIR PRESENCE IS ALSO KNOWN TO LIEUTENANT HUBBARD, OF THE USCG, AND CERTIFICATES OF AVAILABILITY WERE OBTAINED FROM THE USES. THEREFORE MY DECLINING TO FURNISH THIS INFORMATION TO MAJOR CHAMBERS DOES NOT PERMIT HIM TO DRAW ANY CONCLUSIVE OPINION AS TO THE BUREAU'S SOURCE. THORNTON

END

7-37 PM OK FBI WASH DC ND
VVO

RECEIVED: 1-30-45 8-06 PM EWT RBH

ORIGINAL-DIRECTOR

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If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
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Miss Gandy _____